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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted at LaGuardia Community College (LCC) to gather information on 1982 graduates entering the labor market, which industries were hiring graduates, salary data, transfer information, and comparison of LaGuardia graduates to those of comparable institutions. Questionnaires mailed to all 835 members of the class of 1982, telephone surveys, and additional data obtained from the Admissions Office provided information on 594 (71.1%) of the graduates. Study findings included the following: (1) curricular areas showing the largest increases in graduates over 1981 were data processing (+40%), occupational therapy (+45%), dietary technician (+166%), and secretarial science (+7.8%); while decreases were seen in liberal arts (-50%), business administration and management (-13.5%), and human services (-32.1%); (2) secretarial science graduates accounted for the highest concentration of graduates in one curriculum (22.3%); (3) the transfer rate to senior colleges increased from 57.5% in 1981 to 58.7% in 1982; and (4) the average salary of a LCC graduate was $12,624, with liberal arts, business, and accounting graduates reporting the largest salary increases and data processing and human services graduates reporting slight salary decreases. (AYC)

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LaGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

REPORT ON GRADUATE PLACEMENT

CLASS OF 1982

Prepared by

Professor Jeffrey I. Weintraub

Director of Placement

LaGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

LONG ISLAND CITY, NEW YORK

JC 850 171

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LaGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

REPORT ON GRADUATE PLACEMENT - CLASS OF 1982

Prepared by

Prof. Jeffrey I. Weintraub

Director of Placement

BACKGROUND

LaGuardia Community College awarded Associate Degrees to 835 graduates in the Class of 1982. This represented a decrease of 67 graduates (-7.4%) from 1981.

The purpose of this report is to provide the college administration and faculty with an analysis of graduate activity. This includes information on graduates entering the labor market, which industries are hiring graduates, salary data, transfer information and comparison of LaGuardia graduates to those of comparable institutions.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

1. Information was obtained on 594 or 71.1% of 835 graduates from a variety of sources.

2. The numbers of graduates within certain curricular areas increased sharply from 1981. Data Processing (+40%), Occupational Therapy (+45%), Dietary Technician (+166%) and Secretarial Science (+7.8%). Curricular areas showing decreases were Liberal Arts (-50%), Business Administration and Management (-13.5%) and Human Services (-32.1%). (Table I)

3. Secretarial Science graduates accounted for the greatest concentration of graduates in one curriculum (22.3%). (Table II)

4. The transfer rate to senior colleges increased slightly to 58.7% from a 1981 rate of 57.5%. (Table III)

5. Of those students transferring 49% are attending day classes and 51% attending evening classes. (Table IV)

6. Of the 594 graduates responding 305 are employed full-time. Of these 305 graduates, 231 (76%) are employed at new positions obtained just prior to or after graduation. (Table VI)

7. The average salary of a LaGuardia graduate is $12,624 up 3% from 1981. Liberal Arts, Business and Accounting graduates reported the largest salary increase. Data Processing and Human Services starting salaries dropped slightly. (Table VII)

8. A comparison of entry level salaries of LaGuardia graduates to the Middle Atlantic Career Counseling Association's survey shows LaGuardia graduates average 7.2% higher starting salaries than other two year graduates in the Middle Atlantic area. (Table VIII)

9. 39% of the day program graduates who are working full-time were hired by one of their Co-op employers. (Table IX)

DATA COLLECTION

A total of 835 degrees were granted between January and September 1982. Each graduate was mailed a questionnaire in December 1982. If no response was received a second questionnaire was mailed. The total response from both mailings was 393 (47%) with 28 (3.3%) of the questionnaires being returned as undeliverable.

An attempt was made to contact an additional 100 graduates by phone. Sixty graduates responded to the phone survey.

Additional data was obtained from the Admissions Office for 141 students who intended to transfer. The data on these students is included in some of the transfer statistics. Although there is no verification as to whether or not these students are actually attending a senior college at the present time previous studies indicate that 95% of the graduates who file an intent to transfer actually do transfer.

In total there is post graduate data on 594 (71%) of the 835 1982 graduates.

GRADUATING CLASS OF 1982 BY CURRICULUM COMPARED TO THE CLASS OF 1981

Table I shows an overall decrease in graduates of 7.4%. This statistic is somewhat deceptive, as in 1981 the college graduated its largest class in history and the 835 1982 graduates represent the second largest class. Table IA shows the numbers of graduates for the past five years.

The largest increases were in Data Processing (21.3%) and Secretarial Science (17.8%) and the largest decreases were in Liberal Arts (-50.7%) and Human Services (-32.1%).

TABLE I - GRADUATING CLASSES OF 1982 AND 1981 BY CURRICULUM:

CURRICULUM	1982 GRADUATES	% OF GRADUATING CLASS	1981 GRADUATES	CHANGE
Liberal Arts	83	10	146	-50.7 %
Secretarial Science	187	22.3	168	+ 7.8 %
Business Adm/Mgt.	154	18.4	178	-13.5 %
Data Processing	165	19.9	136	+21.3 %
Accounting	76	9.1	97	- 2.2 %
Human Services	74	8.9	109	-32.1 %
Occupational Therapy	35	4.2	24	+45.8 %
Bil Ed/Ed Assoc.	22	2.6	36	-38.8 %
Dietary Technician	16	1.9	6	+166.7 %
Mortuary Science	1	.1	2	-50.0 %
Food Service Mgt	22	2.6	--	--
	835	100%	902	-7.4%

TABLE IA - NUMBERS OF GRADUATES 1978 - 1982:

1982	1981	1980	1979	1978
835	902	824	768	702

Table II shows the percentage of graduates by curriculum for the years 1978-1982. The most significant changes are Data Processing which has increased by 155% since 1978 and Liberal Arts which has decreased by 60% in the same period of time. In 1982 the Secretarial Science curriculum, as it did in 1980, had the greatest percentage of graduates.

TABLE II - GRADUATING CLASSES OF 1976-82 BY CURRICULUM:

	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976
Liberal Arts	10.0%	16.2%	14.0%	19.3%	25.1%	23.5%	25.1%
Secretarial Science	23.3%	18.6%	23.4%	18.1%	16.5%	17.9%	14.7%
Business Adm/Mgt.	18.4%	19.7%	18.9%	17.2%	18.1%	19.4%	16.6%
Data Processing	19.9%	15.1%	11.8%	12.5%	7.8%	5.9%	8.4%
Accounting	9.1%	10.8%	10.8%	12.0%	9.6%	10.0%	9.8%
Human Services	8.9%	12.1%	12.9%	11.0%	11.8%	11.4%	14.1%
Occupational Therapy	4.2%	2.7%	4.2%	5.3%	5.0%	3.4%	3.4%
Ed Assoc/Bil Ed Assoc.	2.6%	4.0%	3.7%	4.6%	6.1%	7.1%	7.9%
Dietary Technician	1.9%	.6%	.3%	---	---	---	---
Mortuary Science	.1%	.2%	---	---	---	---	---
Food Services Mgt.	2.6%	---	---	---	---	---	---

TRANSFER TO SENIOR COLLEGE:

Table III shows the percentage of graduates by curriculum who are recorded as transferring to a senior college. This table was compiled from questionnaires mailed to all graduates, telephone calls to graduates and transfer applications provided by the Admissions Office. Of the 414 students responding to the questionnaire 180 indicated that they have transferred to a senior college. An additional 141 graduates who did not respond by mail had filled out transfer applications provided by the Admissions Office. Although there is no information available as to whether or not these 139 graduates actually registered and are attending a senior college, these 139 students are counted as transferees. A survey of students who responded to the survey by mail compared to the transfer applications indicates that 87% of the graduates who filled out a transfer application and returned our questionnaire are attending a senior college. Of the 60 students contacted by phone, 30 are attending senior college.

The data reveals little change in the overall transfer rate but some fluctuation within major. The most dramatic is in Human Services where the transfer rate jumped from 65% to 92%. This is likely due to the difficulty many Human Services graduates have in securing employment and the low salaries they are being offered.

TABLE III - PERCENTAGE OF GRADUATES APPLYING FOR TRANSFER TO SENIOR COLLEGES BY CURRICULUM 1973-1982

CURRICULUM	1982 # of Grads Responding	1982 # of Grads Transferring	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973
Liberal Arts/LAS	62	54	87.0%	70.1%	75.3%	71.0%	60.0%	37.0%	53.0%	76.0%	80.0%	91.0%
Secretarial Science	123	49	39.8%	33.0%	44.3%	34.5%	21.0%	4.0%	22.0%	34.0%	14.0%	33.0%
Business Adm/Mgt.	118	78	66.1%	60.6%	72.9%	75.0%	49.0%	48.0%	50.0%	68.0%	75.0%	54.0%
Human Services	51	47	92.1%	65.8%	82.8%	80.0%	55.0%	48.0%	46.0%	66.0%	88.0%	0.0%
Accounting	56	38	67.8%	64.9%	68.0%	66.0%	54.0%	44.0%	54.0%	76.0%	50.0%	59.0%
Data Processing	121	57	41.3%	50.5%	50.0%	41.2%	31.0%	19.0%	30.0%	43.0%	38.0%	44.0%
Occupational Therapy	22	11	50.0%	23.1%	28.6%	29.0%	28.0%	8.0%	26.0%	36.0%	0.0%	0.0%
BilEd/Ed Assoc.	14	4	28.6%	79.0%	66.0%	73.0%	56.0%	31.0%	69.8%	62.5%	88.0%	44.0%
Dietary Technician	14	10	71.4%	83.3%	100.0%	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Mortuary Science	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Food Services Mgt.	13	1	7.6%	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
TOTAL	594	349	58.7%	57.5%	62.8%	59.3%	46.0%	32.0%	45.0%	62.0%	65.0%	62.0%

Table IV reflects the employment status of the graduates who transferred to a senior college. For this table only the graduates who responded by mail or phone are counted. The 141 graduates whose transfer information was supplied by the Admissions Office are not counted as there was no way to ascertain what their employment status is.

The percentage of students in each of the three status has remained stable overall, though there has been some fluctuation within major.

TABLE IV - BREAKOUT OF TRANSFEREES BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

	TRANSFERRED FULL-TIME NOT WORKING	TRANSFERRED FULL-TIME WORKING P/T	TRANSFERRED EVENING WORKING F/T
Liberal Arts	11	4	18
Secretarial Science	4	2	16
Business Adm/Mgt.	18	5	19
Data Processing	14	1	19
Accounting	9	2	11
Human Services	18	2	10
Occupational Therapy	4	1	4
Ed Assoc/Bil Ed.	1	1	2
Dietary Technician	2	-	5
Food Service Mgt.	4	1	2
Mortuary Science	--	-	--
TOTAL	85	19	106
	(40%)	(9%)	(51%)

PLACEMENT BY INDUSTRY:

Table V reflects the various industries that have hired 1982 graduates in entry level positions. Graduates who were fully employed while attending LaGuardia are not counted in this table.

TABLE V - PLACEMENTS BY INDUSTRY BY CURRICULUM:

INDUSTRY	L.A.	BUS.	ACCT.	S.S.	D.P.	TOTAL
Banking	1	10	2	6	9	28
Finance	-	4	4	5	3	16
C.P.A.	1	-	4	-	1	6
Ed/Health	6	2	-	5	7	22
Manufacturing	3	2	-	9	4	18
Government	3	5	1	14	4	27
Legal	-	1	-	9	-	10
Retail	1	3	-	2	-	6
Publishing	-	-	-	1	1	2
Insurance	3	4	6	4	5	22
Entertainment	-	-	1	4	3	8
Communications	-	-	-	4	1	5
Data Processing	-	-	-	-	4	4
Real Estate	-	-	-	1	-	1
Utility	-	1	-	5	1	7
Other	1	6	2	7	5	21
TOTAL	21	38	20	76	48	203

PATHS OF LaGUARDIA GRADUATES:

Table VI indicates the post graduate directions of the class of 1982 by curricular area. The high unemployment rate took its toll on LaGuardia graduates in 1982. 54 graduates indicated they were looking for work 6 months after graduation. Hardest hit were Data Processing and Business graduates. Many of these graduates were taking courses in either the day or evening but indicated they were looking for employment and would adjust their course schedules accordingly. Secretarial Science students had the least difficulty finding employment with the vast majority easily obtaining new employment upon graduation.

TABLE VI - PATHS OF LaGUARDIA GRADUATES BY CURRICULUM:

Curriculum	#of Grads	#of Grads Resp.	Grads Emp. New Job[1]	Grads Emp. Exist.Job	Sr.College Trans.[2]	Not In Labor Market[3]	Seeking Employ.	No Info.
Liberal Arts	72	62	21	7	54	--	4	10
Secretarial Science	198	123	76	3	49	1	4	75
Business Adm/Mgt.	154	118	38	25	78	1	10	36
Data Processing	165	121	48	10	57	1	30	44
Accounting	76	56	20	11	38	4	4	20
Human Services	74	51	12	4	47	--	--	23
Occupational Therapy	35	22	12	1	11	--	--	13
Ed Assoc/Bil Ed Assoc.	22	14	--	5	4	2	2	8
Dietary Technician	16	14	4	--	10	--	--	2
Food Services Mgt.	22	13	--	8	1	--	--	9
Mortuary Science	1	0	--	--	--	--	--	1
TOTAL	835	594	231	74	349	9	54	241

1. A new job is defined as a position obtained just prior to, or after graduation. This includes a continuation of an internship into permanent employment.
2. See Table IV for breakdown of day or evening attendance.
3. These graduates are not in the labor market or continuing their education by choice. Some are senior citizens, others are raising families, etc.

SALARY DATA:

Table VII shows salary data for the 219 graduates who are employed in new jobs and who provided salary data. Salaries of graduates who are employed in existing jobs are not included.

Although salaries rose in all curricular areas but two (Data Processing and Human Services) the overall gain was the lowest in history. Salaries rose by an average of 3% to $12,624.

TABLE VII SALARY BY CURRICULUM FOR 1982 GRADUATES:

Curriculum	Emp. Grads	Salary Data Provided	1982 Salary Range	1982 Av. Salary	1981 Av. Salary	% Change
Liberal Arts	21	20	$ 6,500-20,000	$12,815	$11,075	+15%
Business Adm/Mgt.	38	38	7,200-20,000	12,864	11,424	+12%
Accounting	20	19	7,280-19,600	12,714	11.827	+7.5%
Secretarial Science	76	69	7,800-17,000	12,833	12,446	+3%
Occupational Therapy	12	10	8,281-16,400	13,115	12,795	+2%
Human Services	12	12	6,300-13,668	9,433	11,049	-14%
Data Processing (All Grads)	48	47	8,444-20,500	12,682	13,655	-7%
Data Processing (Operations)	39	38	8,444-15,106	11,963	12,340	-3%
Data Processing (Programming)	9	9	12,000-20,500	15,722	16,792	-6%
Dietary Technician	4	4	12,000-14,700	13,041	---	---
TOTAL	231	219	$6,300-20,500	$12,624	$12,185	+3%

LaGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRADUATES SALARIES COMPARED TO THE MIDDLE ATLANTIC CAREER COUNSELING ASSOCIATION SALARY SURVEY (MACCA)

Table VIII is a comparison of LaGuardia graduates entry level salaries to a salary survey conducted by MACCA which represents close to 50 Community Colleges in New York, New Jersey, Delaware, District of Columbia and Pennsylvania. For the second year in a row the MACCA average salary rose at a greater rate (+8%) than the average LaGuardia salary (+3%). With the exception of Data Processing the salary fluctuation within curricular area of both LaGuardia and MACCA was very similar. Overall LaGuardia salaries are 2.7% higher than those surveyed by MACCA $12,592-12,262. The average salaries do not represent the same frequency within curricular areas however and if MACCA's salaries are adjusted to LaGuardias frequency their average salary becomes $11,753 which is 7.2% lower than LaGuardia $12,592.

TABLE VIII

	LaGUARDIA			MACCA		LaG. vsMACCA
CURRICULUM	RANGE	AV. 1982 SALARY	%CHANGE FROM'81	AV. 1982 SALARY	%CHANGE FROM'81	SALARY DIFFERENCE
Bus. Adm/Mgt.	$7,200-$20,000	$12,864	+12.0%	$12,472	+16.0%	+ 3.1%
Accounting	7,280- 19,600	12,714	+ 7.5%	11,388	+ 9.0%	+11.6%
Secretarial Science	7,800- 17,000	12,833	+ 3.0%	11,024	+ 5.0%	+16.4%
Liberal Arts	6,500- 20,000	12,815	+15.0%	10.400	+12.4%	+23.2%
Data Processing	8,444- 20,500	12,682	- 7.0%	14,872	+ 5.1%	-14.7%
Human Services	6,300- 13,668	9,433	-14.0%	8,216	- 6.0%	+14.8%
AVERAGE SALARY		$12,592[1]	+ 3.0%	$12,262	+ 8.0%	+ 2.7%
Adjusted average salary to LaGuardia frequency.		$12,592		$11,753		+ 7.2%

1. This figure does not include Occupational Therapy or Dietary Technician graduates.

HOW GRADUATES OF THE DAY PROGRAM OBTAINED EMPLOYMENT

Table IX shows how graduates of the "day program" (Co-op required), who entered the labor market full-time obtained employment. 39% were hired by their internship employer and 19% were hired through a Placement Office referral.

TABLE IX

	Liberal Arts	Business	Accounting	Secretarial Science	Data Processing	Occupational Therapy	Human Services	TOTAL	%
Co-op Employer	6	13	2	36	20	-	4	81	39%
Placement Office	2	6	8	10	9	3	2	40	19%
Newspaper Ad	1	4	-	3	2	4	2	16	8%
Employment Agency	1	3	2	9	5	1	1	22	10%
Other	4	8	8	11	10	5	4	50	24%
	14	34	20	69	46	13	13	209	

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